

1998 Eagle River MOU

- Who?

- Aurora and Colorado Springs (“Cities”)
- Climax
- Reservoir Company
 - River District
 - Vail Consortium
 - Eagle River Water and Sanitation District
 - Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority
 - Vail Associates

1998 Eagle River MOU

- Objective
 - *“Develop a joint use water project in the Upper Eagle River basin that minimizes environmental impacts, is cost effective, technically feasible, can be permitted by local, state and federal agencies, and provides sufficient yield to meet the water requirements of project participants as hereinafter defined”*

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- **Yield**
 - Up to 30,000 Acre-foot Project
 - Reservoir Co: Up to **10,000 AF firm dry year** yield
 - Cities: Up to **20,000 AF average annual** yield
 - Climax: Up to **3,000 AF of storage space**
- **Project alternatives to investigate**
 - Climax based
 - Homestake Creek based
 - Climax reservoir with Camp Hale groundwater
 - Mixed Climax and Lower Homestake

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- **Phasing**

- 1st Phase: 3,148 AF Eagle Park Reservoir
 - **Done!** 2,013 AF yield to Reservoir Company
- 2nd Phase: Any project for up to 4000 AF of yield split between east and west slopes
 - First 2000 AF split 50-50
 - Next 2000 AF to east slope
- Subsequent Phase(s) – Any project over 4,000 AF

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- **Set up West Slope Homestake Exchange**
 - Up to 800 AF of west slope water exchanged into Homestake Reservoir when available
 - Up to 500 AF / year release to the West Slope
 - Perpetual provided there is no breach of the MOU
 - 2010 Consolidated Water Exchange Agreement expanded to 1,000 AF / year

Eagle River MOU Today

- Focus on Climax and / or Homestake Ck. based alternatives
 - Enlarged Eagle Park Reservoir
 - Pumped yield from below



Image Landsat / Copernicus

Google Earth



Eagle River MOU: Today

- Focus on Climax and / or Homestake Ck. based alternatives
 - Enlarged Eagle Park Reservoir
 - Eagle River supply pumped from below
 - Pump and pipeline to East Slope
 - Homestake Creek alternative
 - Whitney Creek pumping forebay
 - Eagle River supply (by gravity)
 - Fall & Peterson Creek supply
 - Pump and pipeline to Homestake Reservoir



Red Cliff

Gilman

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Google Earth
Bolts Ditch

Eagle River MOU: Near Future

- Zero in on “Purpose and Need”
- Allocate future study costs based on pro-rata share of yield
- Fine tune alternatives

“We are probably in the 2nd inning of the game and the outcome is unknown. Who knows? It could get called on account of rain”

Questions?



(Eagle Park Reservoir)

Courtesy of Diane Johnson



Colorado River District

Protecting Western Colorado Water Since 1937